

STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 23, 2009

TO: Ms. Sharon L. Summers, DSS

Policy, Program & Development Unit

FROM: Daniese McMullin-Powell, Chairperson

State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: 13 DE Reg. 779 [DSS Food Supplement Program Certification Period Regulation]

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed the Department of Health and Social Services/Division of Social Services' (DSSs) proposal to amend its Food Supplement Program regulation published as 13 DE Reg. 779 in the December 1, 2009 issue of the Register of Regulations. The most significant change is to lengthen the certification periods from the current 6-12 month range to a 12-24 month range.

This change benefits households since there will be more time between applications and benefits DSS since it reduces staff workload. <u>See</u> comments at 13 DE Reg. 779. Therefore, SCPD endorses the proposed amendments to the regulation subject to two recommendations.

First, in §9085, first line, DSS may wish to delete or modify the outdated reference to "food stamp".

Second, while recognizing that the federal regulations [e.g. 7 C.F.R. 273.10(f)] explicitly use the term "elderly or disabled", DSS may wish to consider whether it could adopt conforming standards while using "people-first" language in §§9068.1 and 9068.2.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions or comments regarding our observations or position on the proposed regulation.

cc: Ms. Elaine Archangelo

Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.

Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens

Developmental Disabilities Council

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